

# Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services 2018 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



LaPorte County Juvenile Services Center  
0364 S. Zigler Rd  
LaPorte, In. 46350

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## Auditors

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2018 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report**

Facility: LaPorte County Juvenile Services Center  
0364 S Ziegler Rd.  
LaPorte, In 46350

Inspection Date: April 12, 2018  
July 19, 2018  
October 30, 2018

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The 2018 annual juvenile detention facility evaluations conducted by the IDOC, Division of Youth Services consisted of three on-site facility inspections; staff and youth interviews; and an audit of the state detention standards. The new Indiana Juvenile Detention Facility Standards are in the process of being adopted. Detention Facilities had the option to be audited utilizing the all of the current detention standards or the corresponding two hundred and one (201) specifically selected proposed new juvenile detention facility standards.

LaPorte County Juvenile Services Center chose to be audited on the two hundred and one (201) new juvenile detention facility standards in 2018, for their 15th annual detention inspection. Of the two hundred and one (201) standards audited, sixteen (16) standards require mandatory compliance and the remaining one hundred and eighty-five (185) are recommended standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards and 90% of the recommended standards is required to attain "Full Compliance". Centers that chose to be audited on the proposed detention standards were only required to meet the expectation of the current detention standards.

## FACILITY INFORMATION

<b>Facility county:</b>	LaPorte
<b>Governing authority:</b>	LaPorte Circuit Court
<b>Name of facility administrator:</b>	Erika Stallworth
<b>Detention Director:</b>	Dennis Orr
<b>Detention facility's mission:</b>	To provide services and programs to the juvenile courts of LaPorte County. The primary goal is to effectively service the troubled youth of the county by intervening in the least restrictive manner. LaPorte County recognizes that juveniles, being different from adults, shall be served in a manner different than and separately from adults. The facility is structured to provide services to juveniles as opposed to being punitive and protects juveniles from abuses that might occur in adult institutions. All programs will meet applicable Constitutional, Federal and State laws, local ordinances and standards and regulations set forth by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Indiana Department of Child Services, Indiana Department of Correction and the American Correctional Association. This policy will be reviewed at least annually by the Director, the Judge of La Porte Circuit Court and or his/her designee and the Advisory Board and revised as needed.
<b>Rated capacity:</b>	12
<b>Population on date of first audit:</b>	6
<b>Average daily population for the last 12 months:</b>	5.9
<b>Average length of stay for the last 12 months:</b>	15.4 days
<b>Year the building was built:</b>	1994
<b>Minor upgrades since last audit (i.e. painting, flooring, bedding, furnishings):</b>	Exterior doors and frames painted a lighter color to absorb the summer heat.
<b>Major upgrades since last audit (i.e. plumbing, electrical, security system):</b>	N/A
<b>De-escalation techniques training:</b>	Handle with Care
<b>Physical force techniques training:</b>	Handle with Care
<b>Chemical agents permitted:</b>	No
<b>Name of food service provider:</b>	LaPorte County Juvenile Services
<b>Name of food service supervisor:</b>	Kathleen Wilfong
<b>Name of health care authority individual or agency and</b>	Dr. Michael Brown, MD,- private contract

<b>license/certification:</b>	
<b>Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification:</b>	Lynn Roe, LSW Caroline Maslankowski, LSW
<b>Education Services:</b>	Education services are provided by La Porte County Juvenile Services. Youth attend school year round and are eligible to earn credits towards their high school diploma if they are currently enrolled in school when they arrive at the detention center.

**INSPECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH 201 DETENTION STANDARDS**

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>Safety; Security; and Food Service &amp; Hygiene</u></b>
<b>On-site Visit conducted</b>  <b>4-12-18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Sixty (60) Total Standards audited</u></b></li> <li>• Nine (9) mandatory standards</li> <li>• Fifty-one (51) recommended standards</li> <li>• Two (2) standards were identified as non-applicable.</li> <li>• Two (2) mandatory standards were left open for further action.</li> <li>• Four (4) recommended standards were left open for further action.</li> </ul>
<b>Auditors:</b>	Angela Sutton and Kristin Herrmann
<b>Facility Tour:</b>	The tour was conducted by Detention Director Dennis Orr. The center was clean, orderly and well-maintained. The youth were in school during the tour.
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	Two (2) youth were interviewed, 1 female and 1 male.  Youth interviews consisted of questions regarding facility safety and sanitation, living area temperatures, emergency and sick call procedures, staff supervision, restraint use, food allergies and food quality.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	Both youth were reported feeling safe at the facility. Both youth reported that the facility is free of bugs and vermin. Both youth reported that the temperatures in the living and sleeping areas are comfortable and if they are cold, they can request an extra blanket. Both youth reported going through a fire drill since being at the facility, and both were able to explain the procedure. Both youth reported that they were aware of how to obtain medical care at the facility; however, neither youth had ever requested medical care. Both youth reported they receive 3 meals a day, with at least 2 being hot meals. Both youth reported that they get enough food. Both youth stated they receive clean clothes every day and clean bedding weekly. Both youth reported that staff are good role models.

	Youth comments were shared with facility administrators.
<b>Staff Interviews:</b>	Control room officer and line staff were interviewed.  Interviews consisted of questions regarding emergency and count procedures, handling toxic chemicals, sanitation procedures, log documentation, transportation procedures, restraint procedures and distribution of clean linen, clothing and hygiene items.
<b>Staff Responses:</b>	Staff were knowledgeable on emergency procedures and all gave consistent answers. Staff are trained in de-escalation techniques and can use discretion as to when to apply restraints to youth. Once in restraints, youth are checked every 15 minutes. Youth are assessed by medical staff once restraints are removed. Neither staff was able to answer how long restraints can remain on a youth. Staff were able to explain the procedure for evacuating high risk and handicapped youth in the event of an emergency. Youth receive clean clothing every day and clean bedding once a week.
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	All files are compliant.
<b>Action Plan:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>Justice &amp; Order; Medical: and Mental Health</u></b>
<b>On-site Visit conducted  7-19-18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Fifty (50) Total Standards audited</u></b></li> <li>• Seven (7) mandatory standards</li> <li>• Forty-three (43) recommended standards</li> <li>• Zero (0) Standards were identified as non-applicable.</li> <li>• Zero (0) mandatory standards were left open for further action.</li> <li>• Zero (0) recommended standards were left open for further action.</li> </ul>
<b>Auditors:</b>	Angela Sutton and Kristin Herrmann
<b>Facility Tour:</b>	The facility tour was conducted by Dennis Orr.
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	Two (2) youth were interviewed, one (1) male and one (1) female. The youth were asked questions regarding their intake/orientation process, rules, reward system, attorney contact, grievances, and mental health/medical responsiveness.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	One youth reported being allowed to make a phone call during intake, and the other youth reported being allowed to make a phone call after three days. One youth reported receiving an orientation in which they were informed of the programs provided by the detention center, and

	<p>the other youth said they did not receive orientation because it wasn't his first time at the facility. Both youth reported that they understand the rules and feel they are fair. Both youth reported receiving a medical, mental health and dental screening during intake. Both youth reported they are allowed to receive visits, write letters and make free phone calls to their guardians, but the frequency depends on your level. Both youth reported that they know how to contact their attorney, and they are allowed to do so if they request. One youth reported that they filed a grievance and it was resolved to his satisfaction. The other youth reported never filing a grievance. One youth reported that they know how to contact mental health and are receiving mental health services while at the facility. The other youth reported not knowing how to contact mental health. Both youth reported that they know how to contact medical. Both youth reported that they have never feared for their safety while in the facility. Neither youth has ever been involved in any fights while at the facility. When asked if they had any suggestions to improve the facility, both youth said no.</p> <p>Youth comments were shared with administration.</p>
<b>Staff Interviews:</b>	<p>Administrator, line staff, visiting, and mail room staff, were interviewed.</p>
<b>Staff Responses:</b>	<p>All staff interviewed were knowledgeable about policy and procedure. There were no inconsistencies in responses.</p> <p>Mail room- Legal mail is opened in front of the youth and checked for staples. Envelopes and stamps are provided to youth. Youth can write unlimited letters to whomever they choose to write, unless restricted by probation.</p> <p>Administrator- Medical staff is on site Monday-Friday, 7a-3p, and is on call after hours. The health care authority is on site once a week. All staff are trained in CPR, First Aid and med pass. Intake staff are health trained to complete the medical and mental health screening. Medical emergencies are sent to the local ER, and extreme mental health cases are referred out for treatment.</p> <p>Visitation- Visitation is held three (3) times a week. Visits last 30-45 minutes depending on the youth's level. Special visits can be arranged by contacting the supervisor. Visits can only be limited by the administrator, and there must be a valid security issue in order to do so.</p> <p>Line Staff- The facility ensures juveniles aren't discriminated against by allowing all youth to participate in all programs. Youth are allowed to grieve anything (food, staff, school). Staff are present when youth make phone calls. Suicide prevention training is held numerous times throughout the year and during new staff training. Staff were able to</p>

	explain the facility's suicide prevention training.
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	All standards are compliant.
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>Administration; Programs; and Education</u></b>
<b>On-site Visit conducted  10-30-18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fifty-one (51) Total Standards audited</li> <li>• Zero (0) mandatory standards</li> <li>• Fifty-one (51) recommended standards</li> <li>• Three (3) standards were identified as non-applicable.</li> <li>• Zero (0) recommended standards were left open for further action.</li> </ul>
<b>Auditors:</b>	Angela Sutton and Kristin Herrmann
<b>Facility Tour:</b>	The facility tour was conducted by Detention Director Dennis Orr.
<b>Youth Interviews:</b>	There were no youth available for interview during this visit due to being at court or displaying behavior issues.
<b>Youth Responses:</b>	N/A
<b>Staff Interviews:</b>	Administrator, training coordinator, Intake officer, education and recreation
<b>Staff Responses:</b>	<p>Administrator- Social service resources available to the youth are groups and individual counseling, as needed. Most social service programs are provided by community based service organizations. Youth can sign up to speak with a counselor, and they are seen within 24 hours. Library services are provided through the "Book Mobile," which is on site every other Tuesday. Religious programs are non-denominational, and there is someone on site every week. Participation in religious programs is voluntary.</p> <p>Training Coordinator- Trainings are rotated so that all staff are able to complete the mandatory 40 hour annual training. Training is documented through sign-in sheets, which are kept in the front office. Part time staff are required to attend the same annual training as full time staff. The facility does not have contractors or volunteers.</p> <p>Education- All youth receive the Weschler Individual Achievement Test (WIAT) during intake to give the education department the youth's educational level. Records are also requested from the home school if the youth is enrolled. Youth are then able to complete home school work on the computer or by receiving work from the school. Youth who</p>

	<p>are not enrolled in school are given work based on the WIAT test results; however, these youth are not able to earn credits. Youth who are in isolation are offered work if they want it.</p> <p>Intake- The facility ensures that youth are legally committed by using the DREAS and contacting probation. A same-sex search is conducted using a handheld metal detector, and a pat down search is performed. Youth receive an intake phone call in the reception center in which the youth can speak with their guardian. At this time, staff inform the parents of the visitation and phone call procedures.</p>
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	Zero (0) non-compliant standards.
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None

<b>Standards:</b>	<b><u>Administration; Security; and Justice &amp; Order</u></b>
<b>File Review Only 10-25-18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Forty (40) Total Standards audited</u></b></li> <li>• Zero (0) mandatory standards</li> <li>• Forty (40) recommended standards</li> <li>• Zero (0) standards were identified as non-applicable.</li> <li>• Zero (0) recommended standards were left open for further action.</li> </ul>
<b>Auditors:</b>	Angela Sutton and Kristin Herrmann
<b>Non-compliant Standards:</b>	All standards are compliant.
<b>Recommended Action:</b>	None at this time

**Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) – Conditions of Confinement, Facility Self-Assessment**-Ensuring safe and humane conditions of confinement for youth held in secure juvenile detention facilities is one of the Eight Core Strategies in JDAI.

LaPorte County Juvenile Services Center participated in a Conditions of Confinement (COC) review during this audit cycle. The COC Facility Self-Assessment was completed by a team of representatives from La Porte County.

## **CONCLUSION**

LaPorte County Juvenile Services Center is in full compliance with the 2018 Indiana Detention Center Standards Audit performed by the Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services.

A certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten (10) days from the date of mailing.

Please contact me at (317) 914-7347 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

**Angela D. Sutton, MA**

Director of Juvenile Detention Inspections  
Indiana Department of Correction/Division of Youth Services

cc: Christine Blessinger, DYS, Executive Director of Youth Services  
Kellie Whitcomb, Director of Reentry & External Relations  
Honorable Thomas J. Alevizos, La Porte Circuit Court  
Erika Stallworth, Executive Director  
Dennis Orr, Assistant Director  
pursuant to 210 IAC 8-1-5(f)  
file